

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T TRIPOLI 0930

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PPDC, PEPR, LY, US
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT CARTER FROM QADHAFI

1. FONOFF DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAS AL-JERBE CALLED ME IN AT
1300 LOCAL JULY 5 TO REQUEST THAT FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM
QADHAFI BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT. EMBASSY'S UNOFFICIAL
TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

2. QUOTE HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IT PLEASES ME ON THE ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO EXPRESS MY BEST
CONGRATULATIONS AND GREETINGS FOR INCREASING THE PROSPERITY
AND PROGRESS OF YOUR PEOPLE--HOPING THAT THIS OCCASION WILL
BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO THOSE SEMITIC (AS-SAAMIA--WE
THINK HE MEANS JUDEA-CHRISTIAN) PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH THE
UNITED STATES WAS FOUNDED AS A NEW NATION IN ITS TIME.
THOSE PRINCIPLES REAFFIRM THAT THE POSITIONS WHICH ARE
HARMONIOUS WITH IT ARE STANDING ALONG SIDE THE PROBLEM
OF FREEDOM AND (ALONG SIDE) THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES IN
THE WORLD TODAY, AT THE FOREFRONT OF WHICH IS THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WHICH WAS DRIVEN FROM ITS HOMES.

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YOUR EXCELLENCY, MR. PRESIDENT,

THE JUDEA-CHRISTIAN (SEMITIC) PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH
YOUR COUNTRY WAS BASED IMPOSE THE AVOIDANCE OF MENACING
PEOPLES WHO ARE CLINGING TO THEIR FREEDOM AND RESISTING
RACISM AND OPPRESSION, AND IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR YOU
TO BE AN ALLY OF THE FASCISTIC AND DICTATORIAL SYSTEM--

INDEED, THE REVERSE OF THAT--TO BE A NATURAL ALLY OF THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM WHICH IS WORKING FOR THE SAKE OF THE PROSPERITY OF PEOPLES AND THE CONTINUANCE OF SECURITY AND PEACE IN THE REGIONS OF THE WORLD. OUR COUNTRY--WHICH ADHERES TO A POLICY OF POSITIVE NEUTRALITY AND WHICH DEFENDS THE FREEDOM OF MAN AND HIS RIGHTS AND WHICH WORKS FOR THE SAKE OF SECURITY AND PEACE--BELIEVES IN THE POLICY OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN NATIONS, LARGE OR SMALL, TO GUARANTEE THE REALIZATION OF WHAT MANKIND IS AIMING FOR.

WITH MY NAME, MY GREETINGS,

COLONEL

MUAMAR AL-QADHAFI
SOCIALIST POPULAR LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYAH

END QUOTE.

3. MESSAGE IS CERTAINLY MORE THAN ROUTINE JULY 4 PROTOCOL. ITS SOMEWHAT OBSCURE AND PEDANTIC STYLE IS SUGGESTIVE OF QADHAFI'S. FACT THAT IT WAS HANDED TO ME FORMALLY AS WELL AS SENT TO LIBYAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON INDICATES LIBYAN DESIRE TO EMPHASIZE MESSAGE AS WELL AS ASSURE THAT IT GETS DELIVERED. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY, JERBE SAID MESSAGE ORIGINATED IN QADHAFI'S OFFICE
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AND PROBABLY WAS DRAFTED BY QADHAFI HIMSELF. MY FIRST REACTIONS IS THAT QADHAFI, FOLLOWING HIS EAST EUROPEAN TOUR, IS TRYING TO RESTORE SOME BALANCE AND POLISH UP NON-ALIGNED CREDENTIALS. MY SECOND IMPRESSION IS THAT HE IS, IN HIS OWN INIMITABLE WAY, SENDING US A SMALL BOUQUET INDICATING HIS WISH TO BE CONCILIATORY AND PREVENT FURTHER DETERIORATION OF RELATIONS. IT IS POSSIBLE HE HAS BEEN LISTENING TO SOME OF HIS ADVISORS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT LIBYA'S SLIDE TOWARD SOVIET BLOC.

4. I MAKE NO JUDGMENT ON HIS SINCERITY BUT SUGGEST THAT MESSAGE PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE "DIALOGUE" AHEAD SLIGHTLY. I RECOMMEND AT LEAST AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT BUT PREFERABLY A RESPONSE REITERATING OUR WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE A DIALOGUE AND READINESS TO MOVE AHEAD IN OUR RELATIONSHIP AS HE CLEANS UP HIS ACT.

5. ORIGINAL ARABIC VERSION OF MESSAGE WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPT.
CARLE

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